

Application No.: 09/922,045

Docket No.: JCLA6649

**REMARKS****Present Status of the Application**

The Office Action rejected claim 3 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. Further, the Office Action rejected all presently-pending claims 1-11. Specifically, the Office Action rejected claims 1-2 and 5-11 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Gulick (U.S. 6,499,079). The Office Action also rejected claims 3 and 4 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gulick in view of standard ordering practice, as further evidenced by Nishtala (U.S. 2002/0138790). Applicants have amended claims 3, 6, 10 and 11, and cancelled claim 9 to improve clarity. After entry of the foregoing amendments, claims 1-8 and 10-11 remain pending in the present application, and reconsideration of those claims is respectfully requested.

**Discussion of Office Action Rejections**

The Office Action rejected claim 3 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. To overcome the rejection, Applicants amend claim 3 to clarify the antecedent basis for the claimed transactions. After entering the amendment, the antecedent basis for the claimed transactions is clearly established and no new matter is entered.

The Office Action rejected claims 1-2 and 5-11 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Gulick. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections for at least the reasons set forth below.

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To anticipate a claim, the reference must teach each and every element of the claim. M.P.E.P. § 2131. However, Gulick did not disclose the feature of "providing each transaction with a master identification value to label the initiating master controller of each transaction" as claimed in claim 1. According to column 9, lines 16-20 in Gulick, on which the Office Action relied to reject the present application, the pipe ID field is used to route the packet to the correct pipe hardware, and "*the pipe hardware includes Command, Response, Write Data, and Read Data queues*". (column 9, lines 20-21) It is very clear that, in Gulick, the pipe ID field did not label the initiating master controller. Since Gulick did not teach each and every element of claim 1, it does not anticipate claim 1.

After entering the amendments, claim 6 claims the feature of "each read transaction or each write transaction has a master identification value for identifying the initiating master controller" which is similar to the one discussed above. Therefore, at least for the same reason, Gulick does not anticipate claim 6.

Accordingly, independent claims 1 and 6 are patentable over Gulick for at least the reasons set forth above. For at least the same reasons, claims 2, 5, 7-8 and 10-11 are also patentable over Gulick as a matter of law since their dependent claims 1 and 6 are patentable over Gulick, respectively.

The Office Action also rejected claims 3 and 4 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gulick in view of standard ordering practice, as further evidenced by Nishtala. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections for at least the reasons set forth below.

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Combinations of Gulick and standard ordering practice, such as Nishtala, did not disclose, suggest or teach the feature of "providing each transaction with a master identification value to label the initiating master controller of each transaction" as claimed in claim 1. As the reasons set forth in 102 discussion, Gulick did not anticipate claim 1. Further, standard ordering practice, such as Nishtala, did not teach the same feature, either. Therefore, there's no any evidence to prove that combinations of Gulick and standard ordering practice teaches claim 1. In other words, claim 1 is patentable over Gulick in view of standard ordering practice. As a matter of law, claims 3 and 4 are patentable since their dependent claim, i.e. claim 1, is patentable over Gulick in view of standard ordering practice.

Further, Gulick did not disclose "executing the write transactions to access the shared system resource before the read transactions if two or more transactions have the same smallest transaction identification value" as mentioned in the Office Action. According to column 12, lines 21-25 of Gulick, on which the Office Action relied to reject the present application, *"waiting until data enters the coherent region of the system helps ensure that subsequent reads do not pass by the write data before it reaches a point where it can be snooped"* was disclosed. Gulick might disclose to wait for a write before a subsequent read taking place, but Gulick did not mention how to treat a write and a read with the same transaction identification value. That is, Gulick did not teach that a read with the same transaction identification value of a write should be a subsequent read of the write. There's no any evidence that those of ordinary skills could obtain the feature claimed in claim 4. Combining Gulick with standard ordering practice, or Nishtala, those with ordinary skills have no motion to obtain the feature claimed in claim 4.

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For at least the foregoing reasons, claims 3 and 4 are patentable over Gulick in view of standard ordering practice.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 1 and 6 patentably define over the prior art references, and should be allowed. For at least the same reasons, dependent claims 2-5, 7-8 and 10-11 patentably define over the prior art as well.

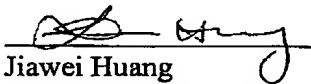
### CONCLUSION

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is believed that the pending claims 1-8 and 10-11 are in proper condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite the examination of the above-identified patent application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,  
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